



Title- SEARCH of Music composer

While searching for Lata Mangeshkar's non-film Hindi songs, I found two compositions sung by Lata Didi on All India Radio in 1958. I got audio recordings of both songs from various groups dedicated to music operating around the world. One of the two songs 'Bandh Diye Kyun Pran Pranonse' was available on YouTube. I found the name of the poet. While searching, I came across more information about these songs in the SARANG bulletin published by All India Radio.

Sarang Year 33, Issue 15,
Dated July 22 rd , 1958
Sakhi me jabse hui virani
Lyrics : Vidyavati 'Kokil'
Singer: Lata Mangeshkar
Composer: Ali Akbar Khan

The complete poem and notations are given along with it. Here is a YouTube link to listen to this song.

<https://youtu.be/mXDVW9ByHe0>

Second song ' Bandh diye kyon pran pranonse'
Information about this song is given in

Sarang, Year 23, Issue 8,
dated April 7, 1958.
Lyrics : Shri Sumitranandan Pant
Singer: Lata Mangeshkar

There is no mention of music composer. Complete poem with notations is given. Here is the YouTube link to listen to this song -
<https://youtu.be/WeO7CttDAGU>

Unfortunately, the composer of this song is not mentioned. Listening to the rich Sarod instrument accompaniment in both songs, it appeared that this second song was also composed by Ustad Ali Akbar Khan. There is no mention in the biographies of Lata Mangeshkar and Ustad Ali Akbar Khan about these two non-film songs. Whether the 78 RPM was released or not, no information I could get. Recently I could contact Lajo Gupta, daughter of Ustad Ali Akbar Khan. She confirmed that ' Bandh Diye Kyun Pran Pranonse ' was also composed by her father. Ustadji had used the same tune in the same year for a Bengali film song by Sandhya Mukhopadhyay. I thank all known and unknown music lovers who have preserved these recordings for sixty four years. On the occasion of the birth centenary of Ustad Ali Akbar Khan last year, these compositions, which were somewhat forgotten in the course of time will surely appeal to the listeners.

Photograph credit- Dharamvir Pal

Dr. Ravindra Y. Shrikhande
doc_shrikhande@yahoo.com